

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

ROSY FUTURE OF WOMEN.



REV. DR. HILLIS.

By R. D. Hillis, D. D., of New York.

If you don't want women to outstrip you in the industrial race and compel you to come to them when you want 50 cents you would better stop drinking poor whisky and quit gambling at race tracks and in pool rooms.

Women, in spite of man's refusal to give them the rights and privileges to which they are entitled, are to-day in 145 branches of business and in instances showing more ability than the men. In one of the greatest financial institutions of this city not long ago a well known man, drawing a salary of \$25,000 a year, suffered a nervous collapse. The directors selected as his successor the young woman who had been the stenographer for ten years. She, the directors told me, has done better work than the man she succeeded and is doing it for but \$10,000 a year.

In fifty years the women will know more than the men. They have more time to read and study and they are improving their time. Eventually they will vote and tell the men for whom they shall vote. Eventually all the universities will be co-educational, and the women will carry off all the prizes.

DISASTER AHEAD OF THE UNITED STATES.



J. H. REAGAN.

By Ex-Senator Reagan of Texas.

The reason Texas must never be divided is this: There can be but two kinds of republics—the confederations of states and the centralized government, which becomes in the end nothing but a monarchy. The United States is drifting too rapidly into a monarchical form of government. It is not even now governed by men. It is controlled by money. The power of the financial interests is paramount to the power of the people. The result will be a dissolution of the confederacy of States or a monarchical form of government. I want Texas to be big enough to stand alone when the dissolution of the Union shall come. This is reason enough for never dividing the State.

PLANT LIFE SHOWS BEGINNING OF NERVES.



By Andrew Wilson.

That certain plants are highly sensitive is a fact doubtless familiar to many readers. We have the case of the English sundews, whose leaves are provided with sensitive feelers. When an unwary fly stumbles across the leaf its legs become entangled in the gummy secretion of the tentacles, and these last bend downward over the insect, and thus tie it to the leaf surface. Escape is impossible; the insect dies, and the leaf converts itself into a digestive hollow, within which the insect is digested by means of secretions nearly akin to those which are represented in the animal's digestive work. The resultant, in the shape of animal matter, is absorbed by the plant as part and parcel of its nourishment. Without insect food these plants cannot flourish. It is the general rule of nature that the animal feeds on the plant. Here the ordinary order of things is reversed; for the plant, as if in retaliation, demands the sacrifice of the animal to its nutritive needs. Other plants exhibit a high degree of sensitiveness intended to assist the capture of insect prey. The "Venus fly trap" of North Carolina is an example in point. Its leaf is divided by a hinge into

two lobes, or halves. Each half is provided with three sensitive hairs. If an insect touches a hair the leaf halves close upon it after the manner of the old fashioned rat trap, only the insect is inclosed within the leaf and is there duly digested.

To explain these curious facts we have to take a broad and general view of vegetable existence at large. It is a matter of common observation that ordinary plants show a certain degree of sensitiveness to heat and to cold. The daisies on the lawn will close their petals when a cold wave comes and open them again when the sun shines. We may with safety assume that no living being, animal or plant, is non-sensitive. They must one and all possess a faculty of sensation, for the plain reason that one and all possess living matter, and everywhere we meet with living matter we find it exhibiting sensitiveness as one of its primary qualities. Is this the beginning of nerves? In my opinion it is. We have only to suppose that in the animal body, owing to its special construction, there is freer scope for the play of nervous action than exists in the plant to explain why sensitiveness is more apparently a quality and feature of the animal than it is of its living neighbor.

WOULD CHECK IMMIGRATION.



By Rev. Dr. R. S. MacArthur.

In the last fiscal year nearly 1,000,000 foreigners have come to our shores. The illiteracy that they brought is astonishingly great and the vicious tendency corresponds to the illiteracy. They are for the most part from countries whose people are not readily assimilated to American ideas and ideals.

Lodge's bill would exclude a great number of these ignorant foreigners, and that bill or some other like it must be passed or our most cherished institutions will be endangered, if not destroyed.

Our naturalization laws are loose enough in themselves, and even those laws are not enforced. Men are made citizens who are ignorant of the first principles of the dignity and duty of an American citizen, and I hope that the day will come when no man will be made a citizen who cannot read in English the constitution he swears to support and no man be made a voter who cannot read the ballot he casts.

TOO MUCH TIME SPENT IN COLLEGE.



By Dr. James, President Northwestern University.

A young man should get into business early, for the ten years between twenty and thirty are critical years. I believe that a young man looking to a business career should be through with his college work by the time he is twenty or twenty-one years of age. He will become a better business man, other things being equal, than the one who stays by his books until he is thirty or older. Men who stay long in college get such a bent away from business that without great natural ability they cannot break through the culture that hedges them and become great business men. At the age of thirty-five the man who entered business at twenty will be a better business man than the one who began his career at thirty.

University culture is not always the best preparation for life. It often stunts natural business ability, and this is an age when business ability counts for much. Very often I advise a college student as young as eighteen years to drop his studies and go to work. I would not do this in the case of one who is advancing in a line toward his business career, but with the one who is at a standstill as far as his preparation is concerned it is better to tell him to go to work. A young man loses his elasticity by the time he is thirty. Usually he can be made into a good business man only while that elasticity lasts.

MAGNETIC WATER PROPERTIES.

When First Used Showed Powerfully Corrosive Qualities.

So absurd has the notion that water could have magnetic properties seemed to competent judges that stories of its discovery have been generally discredited. M. O. Leighton, a hydrographer of the United States geological survey, has been investigating some of these marvelous tales, and he feels obliged to confirm them. The scene of his inquiry was Indiana, and he declares that he has found such water in three parts of the State. One locality is Cartersburg Springs, another is Lebanon, and a third is Fort Wayne. At all of these places the fluid possesses, for a short time after rising from the earth, the power of magnetizing steel objects immersed therein.

From a contribution of Mr. Leighton to the Engineering News it appears that the water contains a quantity of carbonic acid gas, and it remains the property just mentioned until the gas escapes. After that double change takes place a sediment, which is probably ferrous carbonate, is formed at the bottom of the receptacle.

Repeatedly, before dipping knives and needles into the water, Mr. Leighton would test them carefully to be sure that they were not already magnetized. Then five minutes after immersion these objects were withdrawn. They so attracted each other that one would hang from another, point to point. One of the knives was found to exhibit magnetic qualities thirty hours after immersion. Another experiment made by Mr. Leighton personally at Cartersburg Springs was to place a compass needle near the pool. Here a marked deflection from its normal position was observed.

At Lebanon the water comes from a driven well of the Big Four Railroad Company. When it was first used in locomotives it betrayed powerfully corrosive qualities. For that reason it was almost ruinous to boilers. Dr. John H. Hurty, the company's chemist, could find no ingredients which would account for the peculiarity. Later, when he had learned that the fluid would magnetize axes and knives, he advised allowing it to stand in an iron tank for a time before using it in boilers. That scheme rendered it innocuous.—New York Tribune.

THE LAST SURVIVOR

OF THE WAR OF 1812

On a small farm cleared by himself more than seventy-five years ago, Hiram Silas Cronk, the last pensioner of the war of 1812, is now living near Ava, N. Y., attended by his daughter, Mrs. Sarah Crowley, now more than 60 years old.

Mr. Cronk was born on the 29th day of April, 1800, at Frankfort, Herkimer County, N. Y., and is now 103 years old. His health is moderately good and he does not look to be as old as he is. True it is that the old soldier's mind is growing weaker, and he takes but little interest in present day affairs, but he remembers vividly the stirring times of young manhood. Unlike the average old soldier, however, Mr. Cronk does not like to talk of "war times" save to his own children. His youngest son now being 53 and the eldest 75.



knees and offering up that little prayer:

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to take."

Mr. Cronk, with his two brothers, Casper and John, and his father, James Cronk, enlisted at Western, N. Y., on the 4th of August, 1814, when he was just a little more than 14 years old. The father and three sons served with Captain Edmund Fuller, New York Volunteers, in the defense of Sackett's Harbor.

For a number of years Mr. Cronk received a pension of \$12 per month, but in February of last year Congress passed an act increasing the pension to \$25 per month.

WOMEN AND THEIR CASH.

No Two Have Same Method of Carrying Money or Valuables.

Of a half dozen Washington women to be found any day in a street car probably no two adopt the same means of carrying for their cash. "Women have almost as many ways of carrying their money about with them as they have changes of the heart," said a local detective.

"The most common place for a woman to carry greenbacks is in her stockings. Since the days when Eve's daughters began to wear this article of dress it has been a favorite safe deposit vault. It is safe to say that three out of every ten shoppers in a department store will have a little roll of money tucked away in her stocking, and when she decides to make a large

purchase she will seek a secluded spot and dive down for the money.

"When a woman is calling she usually carries a little change in her card case, especially if she is obliged to ride on the street cars. If she is traveling she wears a tiny chamolai bag about her neck for the purpose of safe-guarding her money and jewels.

The glove is a favorite place for carrying money, especially Sunday, when the hands are busy carrying the prayer book and the train for a Sunday-go-to-meeting gown. The little space between the glove and the palm holds just enough for the offering and car fare. The school girl carries her change wrapped up in the corner of her handkerchief. There it remains until noon, or recess, when she unties the knot and buys her lunch, candy, chewing gum or lead pencil.

"Now that the sleeves resemble nothing so much as a good-sized satchel, they are used for carrying money tied up in handkerchiefs. The full front shirt waist is a convenient hiding place for money and other feminine belongings. A petticoat pocket is often used by women for their valuables. They know this pocket is an impossible thing to find, and would as soon think of having the garment made without a band as without a pocket.

"Many girls wear little finger purses and tiny silver bags suspended from chains to carry their change. A bracelet purse of leather, or silver is worn by the fad-loving maiden; but no one would ever suspect that there was money in it. Perhaps the girl who carries her car fare in her mouth is the least common of all, but she exists."—Washington Star.

Unworthy Son.

Shakespeare's counsel, "Look with thine ears," becomes more picturesque than trustworthy if read in the light of a happening which the New York Tribune notes:

During his recent visit to the Yellowstone Park, the President of the United States, who is a close student of American dialects, thought he detected in the speech of the driver of the coach the region from which he hailed.

"You come from Missouri, do you not?" asked Mr. Roosevelt.

The driver pulled in his four horses, set his brake with his foot, and turned impressively toward the chief magistrate.

"Mr. President," he said, "my father 'n' mother once went to Missouri on a visit, and they visited there twenty years. During that time I was born; but I want to tell you right now that I'm no durned Missourian."

Ridiculous.

"Isn't it ridiculous for Tenspot to think he can play football?" asked Larkin.

"Why?"

"Why, he's as bald as an egg."—Town Topics.

Tea Consumption of the Country.

Americans consume 3,000,000 pounds of Chinese tea, 81,000,000 of Japanese and about 4,000,000 of Indian.

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